



## **GREENSBORO URBAN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

### **TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

**July 22, 1999**

**9:30 a.m.**

#### **ATTENDING**

Richard Atkins, GDOT  
Ken King, GDOT  
Tyler Meyer, GDOT  
Libby James, GDOT/ GTA  
Frank Wyatt, Engineering & Inspections  
JW Watkins, NCDOT  
Jim Elza, Guilford County

Lynise DeVance, FHWA  
Jim Westmoreland, GDOT  
Tom Martin, Greensboro Planning  
Mul Wyman, Guilford County  
Steve Kennedy, Engineering & Inspections  
Jerry Dudeck, NCDOT

#### **Welcome**

TCC Chair Richard Atkins called the meeting to order and welcomed participants. He introduced MPO Planner Tyler Meyer, AICP to TCC. Atkins identified three action items, and asked Meyer to present them.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### **Recommend TAC release of 2000-2006 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendment for public comment**

Meyer stated the MTIP amendment incorporates the rural transit element into the 2000-2006 MTIP and makes minor description changes to a small number of projects. Tom Martin proposed the action, and Frank Wyatt seconded the motion. TCC then acted to recommend release of the MTIP for public comment.

##### **Recommend TAC release of 2025 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for Public Comment**

The 2025 LRTP has been revised to accelerate Urban Loop construction between I-40 and Airport Parkway and to add an interchange construction project on Airport Parkway at Old Oak Ridge Road. Other changes include the incorporation of additional documentation and a revision to the Financial Plan to account for the 2000-2006 MTIP and for updated assumptions. Meyer then outlined plan highlights to point out material that might be particularly useful to TCC and TAC. Jim Westmoreland moved to release the LRTP, and

Tom Martin seconded the motion. TCC recommended release of the LRTP for public comment.

### **Recommend TAC release of Air Quality Conformity Determination Report for public comment**

The air quality conformity report has been revised by NCDOT to reflect accelerated Urban Loop construction between I-40 and Airport Parkway and the construction of an interchange on Airport Parkway at Old Oak Ridge Road. Steve Kennedy proposed the action, and Frank Wyatt seconded the motion. TCC then recommended release of the Conformity Report for public comment.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Update**

Ken King stated Transportation (Air Quality) Conformity Regulations require an interagency consultation process involving MPOs, NCDOT, NCDENR, EPA, FTA, and FHWA. Procedures for conducting this process must be defined and agreed to by all parties. The Memorandum of Agreement currently under development will describe these procedures and the specific responsibilities of each party. GDOT staff has concerns with the draft MOA, particularly with the length of the conformity analysis review and appeals periods, and the extra burden these put on the MPO planning process. Jerry Dudeck seconded these concerns. Next steps in MOA development will be completion of a statewide draft MOA template. This template will then be negotiated and modified for each applicable MPO. The agreement for Greensboro is expected to be brought before TCC and TAC in October, though the exact timing is uncertain.

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Update**

The MOU describes the planning process used in transportation plan and program development and in routine MPO operations. Last modified in 1974, the MOU needs to be updated to better describe and guide the process. The MOU update needs to consider Federal Metropolitan Planning Regulations and the status of Pleasant Garden and the newly incorporated towns in the Greensboro Urban Area.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### **NCDOT Division Engineer's Update**

The first leg of the I-85 South Bypass (Southern Loop) project (STIP ID I-2402) is under construction and will be completed soon.

### **MPO Association**

Ken King briefed TCC on the NC MPO Association. The MPO Association has met as a staff users group for several years. Recently it has been modified through the adoption of Bylaws and the election of officers. Concerns about the possible political agenda and actions of the MPO association have been raised. Other issues include the fair representation of larger MPOs and how possible political actions of the Association might infringe on the role of TACs as policy makers. It appears that smaller MPOs taking an adversarial position towards the state might have undue influence in such political actions. Discussion followed.

### **TAC Agenda Items**

TAC agenda items were reviewed. The proposed Regional Road closure was mentioned as a likely additional TAC discussion item. Discussion of this proposal followed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.